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Message Text

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21
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-05

OMB-01 /040 W
---------- 039073
R 200621Z FEB 76
FM AMCONSUL SURABAYA
TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0801
AMCONSUL MEDAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, ID
SUBJECT: CRACKDOWN ON SMUGGLING IN EAST JAVA

REF: (A) JAKARTA 1729, (B) SURABAYA 0076

SUMMARY: GOI CRACKDOWN ON SMUGGLING IS PRODUCING RATHER DRAMATIC EFFECTS IN EAST JAVA. END SUMMARY

1. OVER PAST MONTH, NEWSPAPERS HAVE BEEN FULL OF ANTI-SMUGGLING RAIDS AND ARRESTS, MOST INVOLVING SMALL CRAFT WHICH TRANSSHIP FOREIGN CIGARETTES AND OTHER CONTRABAND FROM OCEAN VESSELS OFF-SHORE AND ATTEMPT TO LAND IN UNPOLICED JURISDICTIONS. IN ADDITION, HOWEVER, SEVERAL MAJOR CASES HAVE BEEN OPENED.

2. THE PRESS HEADLINED ON FEBRUARY 17 THAT EAST JAVA PROSECUTOR SIMANDJUNTAK HAD RECEIVED GREEN LIGHT FROM JAKSA AGUNG IN JAKARTA TO TRY THE CASE INVOLVING 2,000 BALES OF SMUGGLED PAKISTANI YARN (REF. B). THIS MORNING THE PRESS REPORTED THAT SIMANDJUNTAK'S MINIONS HAD SEIZED AND PADLOCKED DEPARTMENT STORES, WAREHOUSES AND OFFICES OF TOLARAM ENTERPRISES, A MAJOR EAST JAVA FIRM. TOLARAM'S DEPARTMENT STORE IS A LARGE ESTABLISHMENT ON JALAN TUNJUNGAN IN SURABAYA, AND THE FIRM ALSO MANUFACTURES CARPETS.
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IT IS OWNED BY A FAMILY OF ETHNIC INDIAN ORIGIN, WHICH IS TO

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BE INVESTIGATED FOR TEXTILE SMUGGLING. AS A RESULT OF THE TOLARAM SEIZURE, THE INDIAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN SURABAYA, WHICH IMPORTS TEXTILES AND SPORTING GOODS, IS IN A STATE OF SHOCK.

3. ALSO THIS MORNING, A RELIABLE SOURCE INDICATED THAT TEAMS OF POLICE AND PROSECUTION OFFICIALS ARE DEPLOYING THROUGH SHOPS ON JALAN TUNJUNGAN AND OTHER SHOPPING STREETS, CHECKING SERIAL NUMBERS OF LUXURY IMPORTS SUCH AS TV SETS, HI-FI SETS, CALCULATORS, OFFICE EQUIPMENT, OUTBOARD MOTORS, SPORTING GOODS, ETC., AGAINST IMPORT INVOICES, AND CONFISCATING ANY ITEMS FOR WHICH DOCUMENTATION IS LACKING.

4. LOCAL SCUTTLEBUTT IS THAT CURRENT CRACKDOWN, AT LEAST IN EAST JAVA, STEMS PARTIALLY FROM COMPLAINTS ABOUT ILLEGAL IMPORTS EXPRESSED BY DOMESTIC MANUFACTURERS OF TEXTILES AND OTHER PRODUCTS. IN ADDITION, PORT CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATOR MOHAMMAD ASRAR WAS RECENTLY REPLACED BY OFFICIAL SAID TO BE STRICT AND TOUGH. I PLAN TO MAKE COURTESY CALL ON HIM NEXT WEEK AS PART OF ROUTINE EFFORT TO MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN CONSULATE AND CUSTOMS.
HOWLAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Concepts: SMUGGLING, POLICIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Reference: 76 JAKARTA 1729, 76 SURABAYA 76
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To: JAKARTA
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